

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

1. ( Currently Amended ) A disk drive apparatus comprising:  
a disk drive body including a front face having an insertion opening ~~of~~ for a disk  
and side faces substantially parallel to a recording surface of the ~~an~~ inserted disk; and  
a decorative panel covering approximately the entire surface of the side faces and  
being disposed so as to be detachable from the side faces.

2. ( Currently Amended ) The disk drive apparatus as cited in claim 1, wherein  
said decorative panel comprises:

a flat panel portion shaped as a rectangle by having a periphery thereof with  
longer-sides and shorter-sides; and

shorter-side members disposed along the shorter-sides of the flat panel  
portion[[:]], each shorter-side member comprising one of a first engaging piece and a first  
engaging groove for engagement with the disk drive body

~~longer-side members disposed along the longer-sides of the flat panel portion; and  
one of a first engaging piece and a first engaging groove provided at said shorter-  
side members for engagement with the disk drive body.~~

3. ( Withdrawn )

4. ( Currently Amended ) The disk drive apparatus as cited in claim 2, wherein  
said decorative panel further comprises:

a plurality of said ~~one of first engaging pieces and first engaging grooves~~ shorter-  
side members; and

~~second engaging grooves for engagement with the disk drive body~~ longer-side  
members disposed along the longer-sides of the flat panel portion, the number of which is  
less than the number of said one of first engaging pieces and the first engaging grooves  
shorter-side members, and being disposed at the longer-side members each longer-side

member comprising one of a second engaging piece and a second engaging groove for engagement with the disk drive body.

5. ( Withdrawn )

6. ( Currently Amended ) The disk drive apparatus as cited in claim 2, wherein said decorative panel has ~~a second engaging groove which is disposed at the longer-side members~~ disposed along the longer-sides of the flat panel portion, each longer-side member comprising one of a second engaging piece and a second engaging groove for engagement with the disk drive body; and

~~the second engaging groove is longer-side members are~~ formed so as to be smaller than the ~~first engaging groove~~ shorter-side members.

7. ( Currently Amended ) The disk drive apparatus as cited in claim 2, wherein said disk drive body is disposed in the vicinity of said one of first engaging piece and first engaging groove in a state in which the decorative panel is installed on the disk drive body, and the disk drive body has ~~a-recess portion~~ portions disposed so as to oppose to the shorter-side ~~member~~ members.